

Womans Place Is At The Typewriter Office Work And Office Workers 1870 1930 Class And Culture

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The Routledge Companion to Media Technology and Obsolescence

- Mark J.P. Wolf 2018-11-21

While so many books on technology look at new advances and digital technologies, *The Routledge Companion to Media Technology and Obsolescence* looks back at analog technologies that are disappearing, considering their demise and what it says about media history, pop culture, and the nature of nostalgia. From card catalogs and typewriters to stock tickers and cathode ray tubes, contributors examine the legacy of analog technologies, including those, like vinyl records, that may be experiencing a resurgence. Each essay includes a brief history of the technology leading up to its peak, an analysis of the reasons for its decline, and a discussion of its influence on newer technologies.

Encyclopedia of U.S. Labor and Working-class History - Eric Arnesen 2007

Publisher Description

Hard-Boiled - Erin Smith 2010-07-07

An examination of the culture that produced and supported pulp-fiction.

The Education Trap - Cristina Viviana Groeger 2021-03-09

Why—contrary to much expert and popular opinion—more education may not be the answer to skyrocketing inequality. For generations, Americans have looked to education as the solution to economic disadvantage. Yet, although more people are earning degrees, the gap between rich and poor is widening. Cristina Groeger delves into the history of this seeming contradiction, explaining how education came to be seen as a panacea even as it paved the way for deepening inequality. The Education Trap returns to the first decades of the twentieth century, when Americans were grappling with the unprecedented inequities of the Gilded Age. Groeger's test case is the city of Boston, which spent heavily on public schools. She examines how workplaces came to depend on an army of white-collar staff, largely women and second-generation immigrants, trained in secondary schools. But Groeger finds that the shift to more educated labor had negative consequences—both intended and unintended—for many workers. Employers supported training in schools in order to undermine the influence of craft unions, and so shift workplace power toward management. And advanced educational credentials became a means of controlling access to high-paying

professional and business jobs, concentrating power and wealth. Formal education thus became a central force in maintaining inequality. The idea that more education should be the primary means of reducing inequality may be appealing to politicians and voters, but Groeger warns that it may be a dangerous policy trap. If we want a more equitable society, we should not just prescribe more time in the classroom, but fight for justice in the workplace.

Race on the Line - Venus Green 2001-05-02

A labor history of women workers in the early years of the telephone industry.

Political Terrain - Carl Abbott 1999

"In an explanation of the many identities Washington has taken on over time, Carl Abbott examines the ways in which the city's regional orientation and national symbolism have been interpreted by novelists and business boosters, architects and blues artists, map makers and politicians."--Cover.

The White-blouse Revolution - Gregory Anderson 1988

Examines the experience of the pioneer women clerks, effects of changing office technology and administration, growth of commercial and secondary education for girls. Available from St. Martins Press. Annotation copyright Book News, Inc. Portland, Or.

Victorian Britain (Routledge Revivals) - Sally Mitchell 2012-08-06

First published in 1988, this encyclopedia serves as an overview and point of entry to the complex interdisciplinary field of Victorian studies. The signed articles, which cover persons, events, institutions, topics, groups and artefacts in Great Britain between 1837 and 1901, have been written by authorities in the field and contain bibliographies to provide guidelines for further research. The work is intended for undergraduates and the general reader, and also as a starting point for graduates who wish to explore new fields.

One Nation Divisible - Michael B. Katz 2006-03-16

American society today is hardly recognizable from what it was a century ago. Integrated schools, an information economy, and independently successful women are just a few of the remarkable changes that have

occurred over just a few generations. Still, the country today is influenced by many of the same factors that revolutionized life in the late nineteenth century—immigration, globalization, technology, and shifting social norms—and is plagued by many of the same problems—economic, social, and racial inequality. *One Nation Divisible*, a sweeping history of twentieth-century American life by Michael B. Katz and Mark J. Stern, weaves together information from the latest census with a century's worth of data to show how trends in American life have changed while inequality and diversity have endured. *One Nation Divisible* examines all aspects of work, family, and social life to paint a broad picture of the American experience over the long arc of the twentieth century. Katz and Stern track the transformations of the U.S. workforce, from the farm to the factory to the office tower. Technological advances at the beginning and end of the twentieth century altered the demand for work, causing large population movements between regions. These labor market shifts fed both the explosive growth of cities at the dawn of the industrial age and the sprawling suburbanization of today. *One Nation Divisible* also discusses how the norms of growing up and growing old have shifted. Whereas the typical life course once involved early marriage and living with large, extended families, Americans today commonly take years before marrying or settling on a career path, and often live in non-traditional households. Katz and Stern examine the growing influence of government on trends in American life, showing how new laws have contributed to more diverse neighborhoods and schools, and increased opportunities for minorities, women, and the elderly. *One Nation Divisible* also explores the abiding economic paradox in American life: while many individuals are able to climb the financial ladder, inequality of income and wealth remains pervasive throughout society. The last hundred years have been marked by incredible transformations in American society. Great advances in civil rights have been tempered significantly by rising economic inequality. *One Nation Divisible* provides a compelling new analysis of the issues that continue to divide this country and the powerful role of government in both mitigating and exacerbating them. A Volume in the Russell Sage Foundation Census

Series

The "new Woman" Revised - Ellen Wiley Todd 1993-01-01

In the years between the world wars, Manhattan's Fourteenth Street-Union Square district became a center for commercial, cultural, and political activities, and hence a sensitive barometer of the dramatic social changes of the period. It was here that four urban realist painters--Kenneth Hayes Miller, Reginald Marsh, Raphael Soyer, and Isabel Bishop--placed their images of modern "new women." Bargain stores, cheap movie theaters, pinball arcades, and radical political organizations were the backdrop for the women shoppers, office and store workers, and consumers of mass culture portrayed by these artists. Ellen Wiley Todd deftly interprets the painters' complex images as they were refracted through the gender ideology of the period. This is a work of skillful interdisciplinary scholarship, combining recent insights from feminist art history, gender studies, and social and cultural theory. Drawing on a range of visual and verbal representations as well as biographical and critical texts, Todd balances the historical context surrounding the painters with nuanced analyses of how each artist's image of womanhood contributed to the continual redefining of the "new woman's" relationships to men, family, work, feminism, and sexuality.

This Grand Experiment - Jessica Ziparo 2017-12-17

In the volatility of the Civil War, the federal government opened its payrolls to women. Although the press and government officials considered the federal employment of women to be an innocuous wartime aberration, women immediately saw the new development for what it was: a rare chance to obtain well-paid, intellectually challenging work in a country and time that typically excluded females from such channels of labor. Thousands of female applicants from across the country flooded Washington with applications. Here, Jessica Ziparo traces the struggles and triumphs of early female federal employees, who were caught between traditional, cultural notions of female dependence and an evolving movement of female autonomy in a new economic reality. In doing so, Ziparo demonstrates how these women challenged societal gender norms, carved out a place for independent women in the

streets of Washington, and sometimes clashed with the female suffrage movement. Examining the advent of female federal employment, Ziparo finds a lost opportunity for wage equality in the federal government and shows how despite discrimination, prejudice, and harassment, women persisted, succeeding in making their presence in the federal workforce permanent.

Anger - Carol Zisowitz Stearns 1989-06-15

Looks at the history of anger in American daily life, discusses the expression of anger in colonial times

Women's Work, Men's Work - National Research Council 1986-02-01

Even though women have made substantial progress in a number of formerly male occupations, sex segregation in the workplace remains a fact of life. This volume probes pertinent questions: Why has the overall degree of sex segregation remained stable in this century? What informal barriers keep it in place? How do socialization and educational practices affect career choices and hiring patterns? How do family responsibilities affect women's work attitudes? And how effective is legislation in lessening the gap between the sexes? Amply supplemented with tables, figures, and insightful examination of trends and research, this volume is a definitive source for what is known today about sex segregation on the job.

Women Workers and Technological Change in Europe in the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries - Gertjan de Groot 1995

The traditionally negative association between women and technology is one of the features of the sex-typing of jobs. Men identify themselves with technology, and technology is identified with masculinity. The relationship between technology, technological change and women's work is, however, very complex. *Women Workers and Technological Change* rejects the idea that women were mainly employed as unskilled labour, asserting that skill was required from the women, but that both the historical record about women's work and the social construction of 'skill' have denied this. Denying the existence of an objective meaning of skill has far-reaching consequences for what has, for a long time, been seen as a major outcome of technological change: de-skilling. If skill has

no meaning, neither does de-skilling. Skill and technology have been widely used to describe, explain and justify the segregation of work. Through studies examining technological change and the sexual division of labour, this book traces the origins of the segregation between women's work and men's work. Drawing on research from a number of European countries, the contributors present detailed studies on women's work spanning two centuries, and deal with a variety of work environments - office work, textiles, pottery, food production, and women's war work. This diverse collection offers a unique opportunity to explore segregative factors on the labour market, and will be of interest to all those studying women's studies and labour relations, sociologists, historians and the general reader.

Job Queues, Gender Queues - Barbara F. Reskin 2009

A controversial interpretation of women's dramatic inroads into several male occupations.

Women's Work and Politics in WWI America - Lars Olsson 2018-06-28
By World War I, the Northwestern Knitting Company was the largest workplace for gainfully employed women in Minnesota and the largest garment factory in the United States. Lars Olsson investigates the interplay of class, gender, marital status, ethnicity, and race in the labor relations at the factory, illuminating the lives of the women who worked there. Representing thirty nationalities, particularly Scandinavian, the women worked long hours for low pay in roles that were strictly divided along ethnic and gendered lines, while the company directors and stockholders made enormous profits off of their labor. Management developed paternal strategies to bind the workers to the company and preempt unionization, including bonus programs, minstrel shows, and a pioneering industrial welfare program. With the US entry into the war, the company was contracted to produce underwear for soldiers, and management expanded the metaphor of "the Munsingwear Family" to construct not just company loyalty, but national loyalty. This book sheds new light on women's labor in WWI and the lives of textile workers in the United States.

Out of Earshot - Asma Naeem 2020-01-07

Out of Earshot offers a reconfiguration of three of the nineteenth century's most prolific painters: Winslow Homer (1836-1910), Thomas Eakins (1844-1916), and Thomas Dewing (1851-1939). Asma Naeem considers how these painters turned, in ways significant for their individual artistic ventures, to themes of sound and listening throughout their careers. She shows how the aural dimension of these artists' pictures was an ideological product of period class, gender, cultural, racial, and technological discourses. Equally important, by looking at such materials as the artists' papers, scientific illustrations, and technological brochures, Naeem argues that the work of these painters has complex and previously unconsidered connections to developments in sound and listening during a period when unprecedented innovation in the United States led to such inventions as the telegraph and phonograph and forged a technological narrative that continues to have force in the twenty-first century. Naeem's unusual approach to the work of these three well-known American artists offers a transformative account of artistic response during their own era and beyond.

Presenting the Past - Susan Porter Benson 1986

In recent years, history has been increasingly popularized through television docudramas, history museums, paperback historical novels, grassroots community history projects, and other public representations of historical knowledge. This collection of lively and accessible essays is the first examination of the rapidly growing field called "public history." Based in part on articles written for the *Radical History Review*, these eighteen original essays take a sometimes irreverent look at how history is presented to the public in such diverse settings as children's books, Colonial Williamsburg, and the Statue of Liberty. *Presenting the Past* is organized into three areas which consider the role of mass media ("Packaging the Past"), the affects of applied history ("Professionalizing the Past") and the importance of grassroots efforts to shape historical consciousness ("Politicizing the Past"). The first section examines the large-scale production and dissemination of popular history by mass culture. The contributors criticize many of these Hollywood and Madison Avenue productions that promote historical amnesia or affirm dominant

values and institutions. In "Professionalizing the Past," the authors show how non-university based professional historians have also affected popular historical consciousness through their work in museums, historic preservation, corporations, and government agencies. Finally, the book considers what has been labeled "people's history"--oral history projects, slide shows, films, and local exhibits--and assesses its attempts to reach such diverse constituents as workers, ethnic groups, women, and gays. Of essential interest to students of history, *Presenting the Past* also explains to the general reader how Americans have come to view themselves, their ancestors, and their heritage through the influence of mass media, popular culture, and "public history." Author note: Susan Porter Benson is Associate Professor and Chair of History at Bristol Community College in Massachusetts. Stephen Brier is Director of the American Social History Project and Senior Research Scholar at the Graduate Center, City University of New York. Roy Rosenzweig is Associate Professor of History and Director of the Oral History Program at George Mason University in Virginia.

Never Done - Erin Hill 2016-10-05

Histories of women in Hollywood usually recount the contributions of female directors, screenwriters, designers, actresses, and other creative personnel whose names loom large in the credits. Yet, from its inception, the American film industry relied on the labor of thousands more women, workers whose vital contributions often went unrecognized. *Never Done* introduces generations of women who worked behind the scenes in the film industry—from the employees' wives who hand-colored the Edison Company's films frame-by-frame, to the female immigrants who toiled in MGM's backrooms to produce beautifully beaded and embroidered costumes. Challenging the dismissive characterization of these women as merely menial workers, media historian Erin Hill shows how their labor was essential to the industry and required considerable technical and interpersonal skills. Sketching a history of how Hollywood came to define certain occupations as lower-paid "women's work," or "feminized labor," Hill also reveals how enterprising women eventually gained a foothold in more prestigious divisions like casting and publicity. Poring through rare

archives and integrating the firsthand accounts of women employed in the film industry, the book gives a voice to women whose work was indispensable yet largely invisible. As it traces this long history of women in Hollywood, *Never Done* reveals the persistence of sexist assumptions that, even today, leave women in the media industry underpraised and underpaid. For more information: <http://erinhill.squarespace.com>
Sons and Daughters of Labor - Ileen A. DeVault 1995

Women and Work - Christine Leiren Mower 2010-08-11

While issues surrounding women and work may be more subtle today than in the past, problems of workplace equity, child-rearing, and domestic labor pose problems of balance that continue to evade solution as women today face substantial shifts in the meanings and practices of marriage, work, and reproduction amid a globalized economy. The essays in *Women and Work: The Labors of Self-Fashioning* explore how nineteenth- and twentieth-century US and British writers represent the work of being women—where "work" is defined broadly to encompass not only paid labor inside and outside the home, but also the work of performing femininity and domesticity. How did nineteenth- and twentieth-century US and British writers revise then-contemporary social assumptions about who should be performing work, and for what purpose? How fully did these writers perceive the class implications of their arguments for taking jobs outside the home? How does work, both inside and outside the home, contribute to female identity and, conversely, how does it promote what legal theorist Kenji Yoshino terms the demands of "covering"—women's strategic use of stereotypes of femininity and masculinity to succeed in the marketplace? In articles appropriate for both upper-level undergraduate and graduate students in literature and literary history, women's studies, feminist and gender studies, contributors engage these questions, covering both canonical and popular "middlebrow" nineteenth- and twentieth-century writers such as Gilman, Cather, Alcott, Schreiner, Wharton, Le Sueur, Gissing, Wood, Lewis and Mitchell. *Women and Work* will also interest scholars concerned with this developing discourse.

Swimming in the Steno Pool: A Retro Guide to Making It in the Office - Lynn Peril 2011-04-25

Feed your boss's ego. Dress for success. And don't let your heels trip you up on the corporate ladder. Millions of women have held the position of secretary, alternately lauded as a breakthrough opportunity and excoriated as dead-end busy work. From the female pioneers who infiltrated Capitol Hill offices during the Civil War to today's tech-savvy administrative assistants, secretaries have withstood criticism for abandoning their rightful sphere (the home), weathered the dubious advice of secretarial guide-books, taken hits from feminists and antifeminists alike, and demanded the right to resist making coffee—all while making their bosses look good. In *Swimming in the Steno Pool*, author-secretary Lynn Peril profiles the various incarnations of the secretary, from pliable, sexy mate of the "office husband" to postfeminist executive-in-training, drawing inspiration from a wide range of "femorabilia" and secretarial guidebooks of yesteryear. Featuring an array of fabulous illustrations promoting office equipment and office girls alike, Peril delivers a feisty, witty celebration of the women who've been running the show for decades.

Modernism, Labour and Selfhood in British Literature and Culture, 1890-1930 - Morag Shiach 2004-02-26

Publisher Description

[Beyond the Typewriter](#) - Sharon Strom 1994-01-15

This detailed account of early office working conditions and practices draws on archival and anecdotal data to analyze women officeworkers' ambitions and explore how the influences of scientific management, personnel management, and secondary vocational education affected office workplaces and hierarchies. "A richly textured and interesting book. . . . Enriches our understanding of the history of the labor force in general and office work in particular." -- American Historical Review "Strom shows, better than any other labor historian has, how class, age, and marital status divided women in the office." -- Women's Review of Books "Using massive quantitative and qualitative data, the author thoroughly examines the social conditions, prevailing ideologies, and

individual responses involved. . . . Well recommended." -- Choice
[Modernist Sexualities](#) - Hugh Stevens 2000

Leading critics from Britain, Canada, and the US examine modernism's imaginative rethinkings of sex, gender, and sexuality. Original essays show how modernism intersects with the suffragette movement, technological change and its effects on women and labor, the growth of pseudo-scientific writings, and the burgeoning lesbian and gay movement. They show how modernism upsets the fixities of gender and sexuality through its fascination with ambiguities, marginality, and the crossing of borders. Sex reformers and sex changers, unsexed storytellers, typewriters, femme and butch experimenters, suffragettes in wide-brimmed hats, musical and dramatic pageants, adolescent delinquents, sunbathers, and dancing indigenes all play a role in the heterodox and varied modernism revealed in these essays.

[Social Economics](#) - John Eatwell 1989

Brief articles cover crime, justice, entitlements, the extended family, full employment, health economics, inheritance, and labor discrimination

Cultural Production and the Politics of Women's Work in American Literature and Film - Polina Kroik 2019-01-21

Cultural Production and the Politics of Women's Work in American Literature and Film emphasizes the interrelation among women's workplace roles, modes of authorship, and processes of subject-formation, pointing to some of the reasons for the persistence of limiting gender roles and occupational hierarchies that arose during the first 60 years of the 20th century. The book interrogates three common narratives: The rise of Fordism as a "masculine" mode of production and the transition to an era of "feminized" work; women's liberation through the sexual revolutions; and the rise of a new form of literary authorship. Conversely, it suggests that women's labor was integral to the operations of the Fordist business sphere, where, unlike at the factory, the white-collar office proletarian work was casualized and feminized. This book argues that this workplace was an important site of subject formation, affirming dominant ideologies through economic practices. Analyzing work by Sinclair Lewis, Nella Larsen, Anita Loos, and Sylvia Plath, the

book presents an alternative history of American modernism, one that is more attuned to gendered discourses of labor and class. By looking at the micropolitics of power within cultural institutions, this study moves beyond the dichotomies of exclusion/inclusion to interrogate the terms on which women and minorities worked as producers, and the ideas and experiences that consequently entered the field of intelligibility.

Farm and Factory - Daniel Nelson 1995

Farm and Factory illuminates the importance of the Midwest in U.S. labor history. America's heartland - often overlooked in studies focusing on other regions, or particular cities or industries - has a distinctive labor history characterized by the sustained, simultaneous growth of both agriculture and industry. Since the transfer of labor from farm to factory did not occur in the Midwest until after World War II, industrialists recruited workers elsewhere, especially from Europe and the American South. The region's relatively underdeveloped service sector - shaped by the presumption that goods were more desirable than service - ultimately led to agonizing problems of adjustment as agriculture and industry evolved in the late twentieth century.

The Angel in the Marketplace - Ellen Wayland-Smith 2020-09-01

The popular image of a midcentury adwoman is of a feisty girl beating men at their own game, a female Horatio Alger protagonist battling her way through the sexist workplace. But before the fictional rise of Peggy Olson or the real-life stories of Patricia Tierney and Jane Maas came Jean Wade Rindlaub: a female power broker who used her considerable success in the workplace to encourage other women—to stick to their kitchens. *The Angel in the Marketplace* is the story of one of America's most accomplished advertising executives. It is also the story of how advertisers like Rindlaub sold a postwar American dream of capitalism and a Christian corporate order. Rindlaub was responsible for award-winning, mega sales-generating advertisements for all things domestic, including Oneida silverware, Betty Crocker cake mix, Campbell's soup, and Chiquita bananas. Her success largely came from embracing, rather than subverting, the cultural expectations of women. She believed her responsibility as an advertiser was not to spring women from their trap,

but to make that trap more comfortable. Rindlaub wasn't just selling silverware and cakes; she was selling the virtues of free enterprise. By following the arc of Rindlaub's career from the 1920s through the 1960s, we witness how a range of cultural narratives—advertising chief among them—worked powerfully to shape women's emotional and economic behavior in support of the free market system. Alongside Rindlaub's story, Ellen Wayland-Smith provides a riveting history of how women were repeatedly sold the idea that their role as housewives was more powerful, and more patriotic, than any outside the home. And by buying into the image of morality through an unregulated market, many of these women helped fuel backlash against economic regulation and socialization efforts throughout the twentieth century. *The Angel in the Marketplace* is a nuanced portrayal of a complex woman, one who both shaped and reflected the complicated cultural, political, and religious forces defining femininity in America at mid-century. This compelling account of one of advertising's most fervent believers is a tale of a Mad Woman we haven't been told.

Gender and the Politics of Office Work - Francisca de Haan 1998

This case-study of a fast-growing segment of the labor market examines the meaning of office work for women: their prolonged struggle to be admitted to the unions, the role of the Schoevers Institute—the Dutch Katharine Gibbs School—in shaping the occupation of secretary, the conservative backlash against female office workers between the two world wars, and finally, the way these women look back on their time in the office, including their experiences of sexual harassment. *Gender and the Politics of Office Work in the Netherlands, 1860-1940* is a revised and abridged version of *Sekse op kantoor. Over vrouwelijkheid, mannelijkheid en macht, Nederland 1860-1940* (Hilversum 1992), winner of the prestigious academic prize of the Praemium Erasmianum Foundation.

Bad Girls Go Everywhere - Jennifer Scanlon 2010-08-31

The biography of the revolutionary magazine editor who created the “Cosmo Girl” before *Sex and the City's* Carrie Bradshaw was even born. As the author of the iconic *Sex and the Single Girl* (1962) and the editor-

in-chief of *Cosmopolitan* magazine for over three decades, Helen Gurley Brown (1922–2012) changed how women thought about sex, money, and their bodies in a way that resonates in our culture today. In Jennifer Scanlon's widely acclaimed biography, the award-winning scholar reveals Brown's incredible life story from her escape from her humble beginnings in the Ozarks to her eyebrow-raising exploits as a young woman in New York City, and her late-blooming career as the world's first "lipstick feminist." A mesmerizing tribute to a legend, *Bad Girls Go Everywhere* will appeal to everyone from Sex and the City and Mad Men fans to students of women's history and media studies.

Wisdom of Two - Margaret Mills Harper 2006-06-15

Publisher description

[Reading American Art](#) - Professor and Department Head of Art & Art History Elizabeth Milroy 1998-01-01

This anthology brings together twenty outstanding works of recent scholarship on the history of the visual arts in the United States from the colonial period to 1945. The selected essays--all written within the past two decades--reflect the interdisciplinary character of current art historiography in America and the variety of approaches that contribute to the dynamism in the field. The authors take up diverse subjects--from colonial portraits to nineteenth-century sculptures of women to photographic images of New York--and invite those with a general knowledge of the history of American art to think more deeply about art and culture. Employing many interpretive methodologies, including iconology, social history, structuralism, psychobiography, and feminist theory, the contributors to this volume combine close analysis of specific art objects or groups of objects with discussion of how these works of art operated within their cultural contexts. The authors consider the works of such artists as John Singleton Copley, Charles Willson Peale, Winslow Homer, Thomas Eakins, Georgia O'Keeffe, and Jackson Pollock as they assess how paintings, sculpture, prints, drawings, and photographs have carried meaning within American society. And they investigate how the conceptualization, production, and presentation of works of art both inform and are informed by prevailing attitudes toward the role of the

arts and the artist in American culture.

[Just a Temp](#) - Kevin Daniel Henson 1996

Whether temp life is a preferred choice or grudgingly accepted as the last option when 'real' or permanent work is unavailable, all temps must confront issues of gender, identity, and self-esteem. This book examines these issues, documenting the concerns and interpretations of temp workers about their own work lives.

Typewriter Century - Martyn Lyons 2021

As a vehicle for outstanding creativity, the typewriter has been taken for granted and was, until now, a blind spot in the history of writing practices.

Technology and Women's Voices - Cheris Kramarae 2004-01-14

First published in 1988. Routledge is an imprint of Taylor & Francis, an informa company.

Lawyers in Society - Richard L. Abel 1989

Contains comparative and theoretical essays on the legal profession around the world.

The Modern Temper - Lynn Dumenil 1995-06-30

Offers a broad view of American culture during the 1920s, discussing the changing values that ended the repressive Victorian era, the growing importance of pluralism in America's heterogeneous society, and the expansion of federal bureaucracy

The Routledge Companion to Modernity, Space and Gender - Alexandra Staub 2018-03-09

The Routledge Companion to Modernity, Space and Gender reframes the discussion of modernity, space and gender by examining how "modernity" has been defined in various cultural contexts of the twentieth and twenty-first centuries, how this definition has been expressed spatially and architecturally, and what effect this has had on women in their everyday lives. In doing so, this volume presents theories and methods for understanding space and gender as they relate to the development of cities, urban space and individual building types (such as housing, work spaces or commercial spaces) in both the creation of and resistance to social transformations and modern global capitalism. The

book contains a diverse range of case studies from the US, Europe, the UK, and Asian countries such as China and India, which bring together a multiplicity of approaches to a continuing and common issue and reinforces the need for alternatives to the existing theoretical canon.

Woman'S Place Is At The Typewriter - Margery Davies 2010-08-12

"Compelling. It serves as a lesson and a warning, for it might disabuse many women of their notion that the first step toward the executive ladder is at a typewriter. Certainly [it] suggests MBAs for aspiring women, rather than Smith-Coronas." --Boston Sunday Globe In most societies, a sexual division of labor is usually regarded as "natural." Thus, in the United States today not only does it seem proper that woman's place is at the stove, or with the children, or in the classroom, or at the typewriter, but it also seems "natural" it was always so. Looking at clerical workers, the author shows how work once performed by men became redefined as "women's work." She explores this shift in the context of patriarchal social relations and political-economic forces. The interaction of which determined woman's place in the office. Before 1900, male clerical workers, as apprentice capitalists, performed a wide variety of tasks that helped them learn the business. By 1930, the class position of clerical workers had changed, and autonomous male clerks were transformed into working class females--a "secretarial proletariat." Based on business histories, corporation records, correspondence, and even fiction. Dr. Davies' work demonstrates how the feminization of

clerical work is historically specific rather than ordained by nature; how it reflects the peculiar forms which patriarchy have assumed in the United States; and how the working class status of contemporary office workers began to take shape at the end of the nineteenth century. From the time the first female office worker was hired by US Treasurer General Elias Spinner during the Civil War and it became apparent that female labor was cheaper than male, women became increasingly visible in the office. The author accounts for this by discussing the decrease in productive work in the home, the perceived higher status of office work, and the better working conditions in offices. She also looks at scientific office management, which crystallized labor specialization and helped eliminate worker control over work. Examining the role of the private secretary, she concludes this apparently more attractive position served to mask the realities of typical office work. Perhaps the most interesting conclusion reached in this book is that the degradation and the proletarianization of office work were disguised by the shift from male to female workers. The nineteenth-century clerk has not turned merely into a proletarian: he had turned into a woman. "One of the first books to tackle this important topic and as such admirably begins to fill the gap. . . . A critical contribution." --The Journal of American History "Lively reading. Davies' review of the impact of the typewriter proves a useful perspective for those trying to evaluate the impact of the word processor on social roles and labor markets in the 1980s." --Choice